

Intermedia



ART 362 Ideas in Intermedia: *Beyond Algorithms and Doom Scrolling. Animals, Plants, Machines and Creating New Forms of Community*

ART 362 Ideas in Intermedia: Beyond Algorithms and Doom Scrolling. Animals, Plants, Machines and Creating New Forms of Community/// 4 units [Pre-req: None]
MW 12-1:50pm Watt 102B Taught by Lecturer Jean Robison

What is outside my social (media) bubble? How do we build community in the midst of a loneliness epidemic? Can social platforms be used for creative expression and positive engagement? How do I fit into a non-human-centered perspective? This class explores the ways social media has informed and impacted how we think about culture, art, and an ecological future by examining online connectivity. The differences between Social Media and Social Networks is that one term applies to broadcasting information and the other encompasses communication between people. With this lens, the class considers the power of community, creative care, mutual aid, and more-than-human intelligences such as plants, animals, and AI. Students will examine their relationships to algorithms on social media, evaluate their online carbon footprint and experiment with the “ecology of technology”. Topics to be explored include: mutual aid, care and maintenance, interspecies communication, technology, adaptation, empowerment, surveillance capitalism, algorithms, and resistance. Readings, lectures, screenings, guest lectures, workshops, and class discussions will shape student’s projects and research leading to a deeper understanding of the impact and potential of social technologies. For the final project, students will make meaningful creative work for positive change using social media to disseminate the outcomes.

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This course counts toward Intermedia Arts Minor, Comm Design Minor, Photography Minor & Performance Art Minor

